

COMANCHE TRIBE

Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Grady, Kiowa, Tillman,
and Washita Counties, OKLAHOMA

Tribal Headquarters: Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

101

Federal
Trust Area

Population: 3,300 (BIA 11/72)

657
161

LAND STATUS Total Area: 234,299.45 acres (three tribes) 657
Tribally Owned: 4,373.41 acres 423
Allotted: 229,926.04 acres

(Acreage by individual tribes is not available. Total
includes all three tribes.)

Owned Jointly With the Kiowa and Apache Tribes of Oklahoma. (648)

This land is held in trust by the United States under the act of
June 24, 1946.

HISTORY AND CULTURE

The Comanche are of the Shoshonean linguistic group. In 1719, they were mentioned as living in what is now western Kansas. Legends indicate that the Comanche may have had horses before the Spanish arrived. Where they obtained them is not known. The horse changed the Comanche's mode of living into a nomadic one. They made little agricultural use of the land and lived in easily transportable tipis. Long known as the finest horsemen of the plains, they had a reputation for courage in battle when facing great odds. They were traditionally hunters. Their diet consisted of game meat, berries, edible roots, but mainly the buffalo, whose skin the Comanche used for clothing, bedding, and shelter. 197
195
131
173
231
198
361
311
181
763
262

For nearly 2 centuries they were at war with the Spaniards in Mexico and raided Mexican settlements as far south as Durango and Zacatecas. Generally friendly to the Americans, they were bitter enemies of the Texans who had dispossessed them of their best hunting grounds. They waged relentless war against them for almost 40 years. Around 1795, they became close confederates of the Kiowa and also allied themselves with the Apache. 195
648

Several treaties were consummated between the United States and the Comanche Tribe between 1834 and 1875. In the treaty of 1867 the Comanche, along with their allies, the Kiowa and Apache Tribes, were assigned a tract of land in Oklahoma containing 2,968,893 acres. Individuals were allotted 160 acres each. (657)